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New Brunswick Arts Board Announces Aboriginal Arts Program

The New Brunswick Arts Board joined in the Aboriginal Day festivities in Fredericton today by announcing a pilot Aboriginal Arts Program. The objective of this initiative is to promote the creation of culturally-specific and contemporary aboriginal art works.

This program is the first of its kind in New Brunswick. As part of the Arts Board's strategic action plan announced last fall, this two-year pilot program will allocate $60,000 per year for grants to emerging and established aboriginal artists. A committee of aboriginal artists and administrators chaired by Arts Board member Fran Ward Francis developed the new program. It will award project grants of up to $6,000 through juried competitions held twice per year. The first deadline for applications is October 1st, 2001.

"The Arts Board is uniquely positioned to develop and to deliver this program," said Richard Hornsby, Chair of the NBAB, "it marks an advance in the development of the arts in New Brunswick that will benefit the aboriginal first nations and indeed all New Brunswickers."

For information and application forms, please contact the Arts Board at 1-866-460-ARTS.

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